THE PIXIES ARE KEEPING IT SIMPLE

BLACK FRANCIS SAYS THE ICONIC BAND SKIPS THE FRILLS. PAGES 14-15

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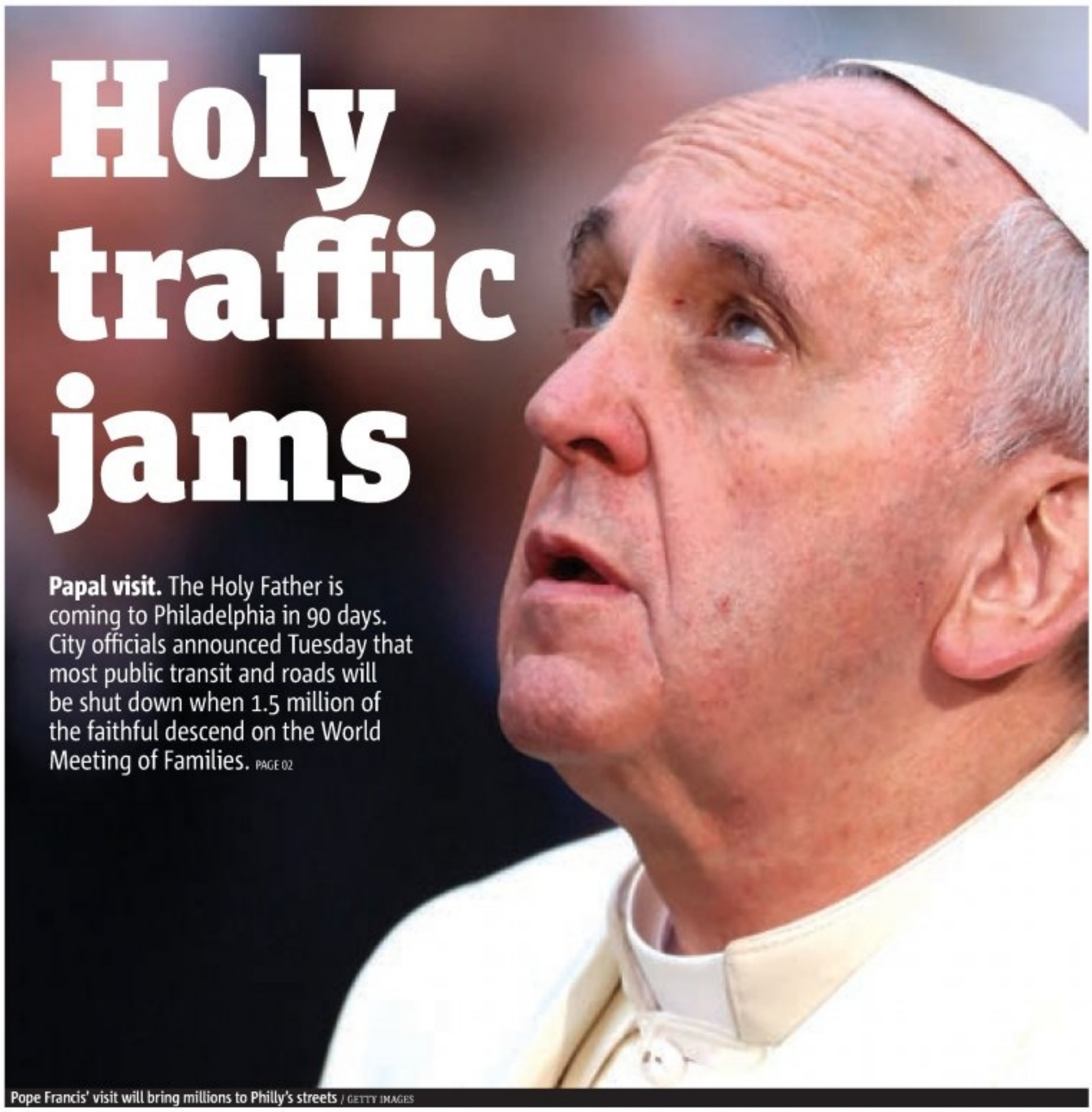
Wednesday, June 17, 2015 www.metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

Holy traffic jams

Papal visit. The Holy Father is coming to Philadelphia in 90 days. City officials announced Tuesday that most public transit and roads will be shut down when 1.5 million of the faithful descend on the World Meeting of Families. PAGE 02



Pope Francis' visit will bring millions to Philly's streets / GETTY IMAGES

Get wet. Philly public pools open June 19

PAGE 06

Aaron Paul punks his 'Breaking Bad' fans

PAGE 13

Three Ikea hacks to try this weekend

PAGE 19

Eagles say offensive line is fine sans Mathis

PAGE 23

1 NEWS

Top 3

The best of Metro.us

1 "'Game of Thrones': 6 ways Jon Snow could have survived'

2 "'Inside Out' is a Pixar movie for adults, less so for kids'

3 'West Point cadet on trial for allegedly distributing child pornography'

Get the latest

Want to read the latest news on your mobile device? Get the free Metro App! Find out what happened while you were sleeping and get the latest in news, sports, lifestyle and entertainment. Just search for Metro US in the App Store or Google Play.

Correction

The wrong dates for the Koresh Come Together Dance Festival were listed in the June 12 edition of Metro. The performance dates are July 22-26. Thirty-two dance companies are participating. Metro regrets the error.

Pope's visit could mean 3-mile walks

Be prepared. Transit disruptions and gridlock will mean residents may have to walk miles when the Pope comes to town.

Construction equipment sits Tuesday in front of the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Center City. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Residents should be prepared to walk "at least a few miles" amid massive disruptions to traffic and public transit during Pope Francis' visit to Philadelphia in September, Mayor Michael Nutter said Tuesday.

Officials from SEPTA, Amtrak, PATCO and the Philadelphia International Airport said residents and tourists alike need to start thinking about how they'll get around the city during what is expected to be massive gridlock and street closures.

They especially want people to know that they shouldn't even think of bringing a car to Philadelphia for the papal visit.

Planners from the World Meeting of Families expect between one and two million people to arrive in the city for Pope Francis' visit, making it the biggest event in modern city history and one of the largest in U.S. history.

"What you would normally do, to get to an Eagles game or something, forget that," Nutter said.

SEPTA will operate normally between Sept. 22 and 25 during the World Meeting of Families. The big crush will come on Sept. 26 and 27 when the pope will be in town.

Good advice

What to wear

Military surplus store I. Goldberg has some advice for Philadelphians ahead of the papal visit — get the right footwear and decent socks.

"It will be bedlam down here," says Tom Egolf, from the online store. "Those unprepared should have the right type of footwear to maneuver themselves throughout the crowds."

Egolf advises you pick shoes that are breathable, waterproof, cool and rated for outdoors.

Oh yeah, and wear good socks.

"Along with a quality sock with cushion and proper insoles can be beneficial to feet, especially elderly feet," Egolf said.

SEPTA

The transit agency hopes to convert nearly anything with rails into an express line moving people from the city's extremities to the center. The number of stations that will be used will drop to 31 from 282 along the Regional Rail, Market Frankford Line, Broad Street Subway, trolley lines and the Norristown High Speed line, SEPTA general manager Joe Casey said.

For those two days, for example, the Broad Street Line will only pick up at Cecil B. Moore and Fern Rock going south, and AT&T station going north. Regional rail lines will also operate as express trains, picking up passengers at Paoli, Norristown, Chestnut Hill West, Lansdale, Media, Wilmington, and a handful of other stations. They'll be shuttled straight downtown.

Don't ask where passengers will be allowed to get off the train. It'll be somewhere in Center City, but SEPTA isn't saying where for security reasons.

Rail

Regional rail passengers will need special, station-specific tickets for the weekend of the pope's visit. Officials expect them to sell out. They go on sale July 15. SEPTA will also sell special $10, 3-day passes for buses and trolleys during that weekend.

Amtrak passengers will need reservations. Airline passengers are expected to fly into eight different airports stretching from New York City to Washington, D.C.

"There is no specific, scientific, documentable way for us to actually figure out today, 90 days out, how many people will actually show up," Nutter said.

There is no word on possible traffic closures, but it seems likely there will be many. Nutter says those details will be announced in the future.

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Where to stay?

Hotel squeeze is money in the bank for locals

Philadelphia only has about 11,000 hotel rooms, so where will 1.5 million people sleep during the papal visit in September?

Plenty of homeowners might have an answer, and make a tidy little profit at the same time.

On Airbnb, rooms in Philadelphia are going for thousands of dollars a night for the week of the papal visit, Sept. 22-27.

Most rentals on Airbnb in the Fairmount area near the Parkway where the papal mass will be held are around $1,500 a night, with one house on the Parkway listed at $3,500 a night — which would mean a total cost of $17,500 for the five-day World Meeting of Families.

A bill introduced to City Council by Councilman Bill Greenlee, which would add an 8.5 percent city tax to rentals through services like Airbnb, is still pending.

If those stats aren't enough, officials are warning that crowds could be larger than expected.

In Manila, Francis drew a crowd of six million — in the rain.

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Taxi thief

Someone keeps stealing cabs in Philly

Philadelphia police are hunting for a suspect who appears to be trying to take a bite out of the Philly cab industry that rivals Uber's.

At least 12 taxicabs have been stolen from West and Southwest Philadelphia between June 7 and June 16. Investigators say a man seen in a surveillance video might be involved in the thefts.

All of the cabs bear the logo "215 Get A Cab" — which is the app that many cab companies in Philadelphia use — but they are independently owned, said Lt. John Walker of Southwest Detectives.

Investigators believe the suspect may have a key that works in Ford Crown Victorias made between 2007 and 2009. DAN KELLEY

Residents could be on the hook for water main break

Damages.
Residents ask if they will be reimbursed after a water main break.

When a water main broke at 21st and Bainbridge in July 2012, more than 100 residents and business owners claimed the rushing waters damaged electrical systems and basements full of mementos.

The city was on the hook for more than $1 million in damages, but it only paid out roughly half, thanks to an obscure state law that caps payouts by the city in accidents to $500,000.

Now, after Sunday's immense water main break near 52nd and Wyalusing, property owners are left wondering if they could be left holding the bag again.

Anita Smith sweeps after the water main break. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER

By the numbers

$500K

The Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act limits the city's liability in accidents to $500,000, a cap that hasn't been adjusted since 1980.

The full cost of damages to homes, businesses and cars may not be known for months. John Rawlins at 6ABC reports that 29 cars and 40 buildings were impacted by flooding. But already, some officials worry about whether residents will be reimbursed for their losses.

"If we aren't going to invest in infrastructure, then we need to expect these things to happen," said State Rep. Brian Sims, who represents portions of the Graduate Hospital neighborhood.

"But if we are going to expect these things to happen, we need to take steps to make sure that municipalities pay their fair share."

Sims has introduced legislation to increase the cap to $1,250,000.

The Philadelphia Water Department says it responds to an average of 750 water main breaks each year. Most are for small pipes, about 6 to 8 inches. Bigger ones, like the 36-inch pipe that burst Sunday, can create enormous damage. (The largest pipes are 93 inches, large enough to drive a Mini Cooper through.)

In the 2012 water main break, residents were on track to get just 19 cents on the dollar for their losses. That's because two utilities, PECO and Verizon, filed claims for hundreds of thousands of dollars. Both companies filed reduced claims after negotiations with city and state legislators, according to Steve Cobb, an aide to Philadelphia Councilman Kenyatta Johnson.

Injured people have also run up against the caps. In 2013, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court upheld a ruling that awarded $500,000 to a girl whose leg had to be amputated after she had been hit by a school bus in Pennsbury. She'd been awarded $14 million by a jury.

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Q&A with a lover of Philly's public pools

Swimming. Mica Root knows everything there is to know about public pools.

Philadelphia's public pools open June 19. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Meet Mica Root, who has swam in all but one of Philly's 75 public pools. She blogs about city pools and the people who visit and work at them at Swimming Philadelphia.

Why did you start this project?
I love the pools. They completely changed my experience of summer in the city. I don't care how much air conditioning you have access to, there's nothing better than being able to dunk yourself in this clear blue water. I started the site as a way to explore and celebrate them.

Do you have any favorites?
My favorite is the one I worked at, O'Connor at 26th and South. It's the first pool I came across, and it was such an incredible experience to find it. Kelly Pool [near the Please Touch Museum] is also incredible. It's the biggest in the city, and there's grass around it.

You hear a lot of people say that public pools are dirty or unhealthy. Is that true?
There's definitely the perception that they are not clean. And that's grounded in some history, because public pools started as bathhouses, back before many people had indoor plumbing.

It's not true that they are dirty now. When I worked at the pool, the pool attendants checked the chlorine and pH balance every hour. There are people from the city health department and a state agency who come around and check the water, too. There are multiple groups ensuring the cleanliness of these pools.

What have you learned about the racial dynamics?
Pools are particularly intimate spaces. Pools were definitely lightning rods during Civil Rights-era desegregation and that continues to this day.
In the summer of 2013, I met a lifeguard at Murphy pool. He'd been a lifeguard for decades, and told me that he'd been part of a team brought in to desegregate O'Connor Pool just 25 years ago. It wasn't official segregation, but African-American people were not welcome there. So the Recreation Department pulled together a multiracial team of lifeguards to talk with the community and make sure everyone could swim.

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Bomb threat

Naval facility evacuated after security threat

A U.S. Navy facility in Philadelphia was evacuated on Tuesday after the FBI received information of a security threat, according to a Navy Yard post on Twitter and media reports.

Nonessential workers at the facility, where the Navy has offices and warehouses, were sent home although the facility remained open, the Navy Yard said.

Homeland Security officials gave an "all clear" about two hours later.
REUTERS

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FDA

Trans fat ban doesn't mean you'll never eat it

Goodbye, trans fats. Well, mostly.

The Food and Drug Administration officially declared that partially hydrogenated oils, the main source of trans fats in processed foods, are no longer "generally recognized as safe" to eat.

Trans fats not only raise your levels of bad cholesterol, but they also lower your levels of good cholesterol. In the statement announcing its policy change, the FDA said it expects to cut rates of coronary heart disease and prevent thousands of fatal heart attacks annually.

Many companies have seen the writing on the wall — this change has been three years in the making — and have already begun to change their recipes. But food manufacturers will have three years to figure out how to make your French fries and cupcakes healthier.

But this ban doesn't mean trans fats will never be on your plate again.

The problem isn't the low levels of naturally occurring trans fats — it's the extent of their use in practically everything. Many restaurants fry their food in partially hydrogenated oil to keep down costs because it stays good longer than natural oils, packaged baked goods like crackers and cookies contain trans fats to keep their texture and ready-made frosting doesn't melt because of trans fats. EVA KISS, METRO

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Donald Trump makes his presidential announcement at Trump Tower in New York City. / GETTY IMAGES

Trump barges into 2016 race for president

Only top 10. Trump's first big challenge is to make it into a Fox News GOP debate in August.

Real estate mogul and TV personality Donald Trump barged his way into the 2016 U.S. presidential election on Tuesday in a blitz of boasts, inflammatory comments and attacks on both fellow Republicans and President Barack Obama's administration.

Trump wallowed in political incorrectness as he insulted everyone from Mexican immigrants to Jeb Bush and U.S. ally Saudi Arabia in announcing his bid for the Republican nomination.

"I will be the greatest jobs president that God ever created," Trump predicted in a long, combative speech in the atrium of Trump Tower on Manhattan's Fifth Avenue.

The billionaire, widely seen as having almost no chance of winning the nomination, brings an outsized personality and a penchant for controversy to an unusually large group of Republicans vying for the presidency.

In highly provocative comments, Trump accused Mexico of sending rapists and other criminals to live in the U.S.

"They're sending people that have lots of problems and they're bringing their problems," he said. "They're bringing drugs, they're bringing crime, they're rapists, and some I assume are good people, but I speak to border guards and they tell us what we are getting."

Eleven other Republicans have announced they are running for the November 2016 election.

Trump hit out at Bush for backing the Common Core education initiative to set national education standards.

"Bush is totally in favor of Common Core. I don't see how he can possibly get the nomination. He's weak on immigration, he's in favor of Common Core. How the hell can you vote for this guy? You just can't do it."

Republican strategists and officials cringe at the thought of Trump grabbing attention away from the party's more serious candidates as it tries to win back the White House. REUTERS

Standings

12

Trump languishes in 12th place, ahead only of former New York Governor George Pataki, in a Reuters/Ipsos online poll of 13 Republicans who have either declared their candidacies or are likely to.

NY Times. St. Louis Cardinals probed for Houston Astros hack

The Cardinals said they have "fully cooperated with the investigation and will continue to do so." / GETTY IMAGES

The Federal Bureau of Investigation and U.S. federal prosecutors are investigating the St. Louis Cardinals baseball team for hacking into the computers of the Houston Astros to steal closely guarded information about player personnel, The New York Times reported on Tuesday.

Compromised information includes internal discussions about trades, proprietary statistics and scouting reports, the Times reported, citing law enforcement officials.

There is evidence that officials of the Cardinals, who won the 2006 and 2011 World Series and are one of the sport's most respected franchises, broke into a network of special databases, the report said.

"Major League Baseball has been aware of and has fully cooperated with the federal investigation into the illegal breach of the Astros' baseball operations database," MLB said in a statement.

The Cardinals, who own a league-best 42-21 record this season, have won the World Series 11 times, second only to the New York Yankees. They have reached "the Fall Classic" 19 times, most recently in 2013 when they lost to the Boston Red Sox.

According to the Times, authorities believe the hacking was performed by front-office employees hoping to undermine the work of Houston General Manager Jeff Luhnow, an innovative former Cardinals executive who left in late 2011 to join the Astros.

Tracing the breach led the FBI to a home that "some Cardinals officials lived in," the Times reported.

There was no word on which Cardinals employees were the focus of the investigation or whether the team's highest-ranking officials were aware of the hacking or authorized it.

The Houston office of the FBI would neither confirm nor deny an investigation, but said: "The FBI aggressively investigates all potential threats to public and private sector systems."

"Once our investigations are complete, we pursue all appropriate avenues to hold accountable those who pose a threat in cyberspace," it said.

The Astros, who have never won the World Series, initially believed they were breached by a rogue hacker. The club, currently in first place in the American League West, said it is "actively cooperating" with the investigation.

Houston and St. Louis were National League division rivals from 1994 to 2012 before the Astros jumped to the American League. REUTERS

Quoted

"Once the investigative process has been completed by federal law enforcement officials, we will evaluate the next steps and will make decisions promptly."

Major League Baseball

Choke-hold death

NY appeals court hears arguments over grand jury records

A New York state appeals court heard arguments on Tuesday over unsealing minutes of a grand jury that declined to indict a white New York City police officer in the choke-hold death of an unarmed black man.

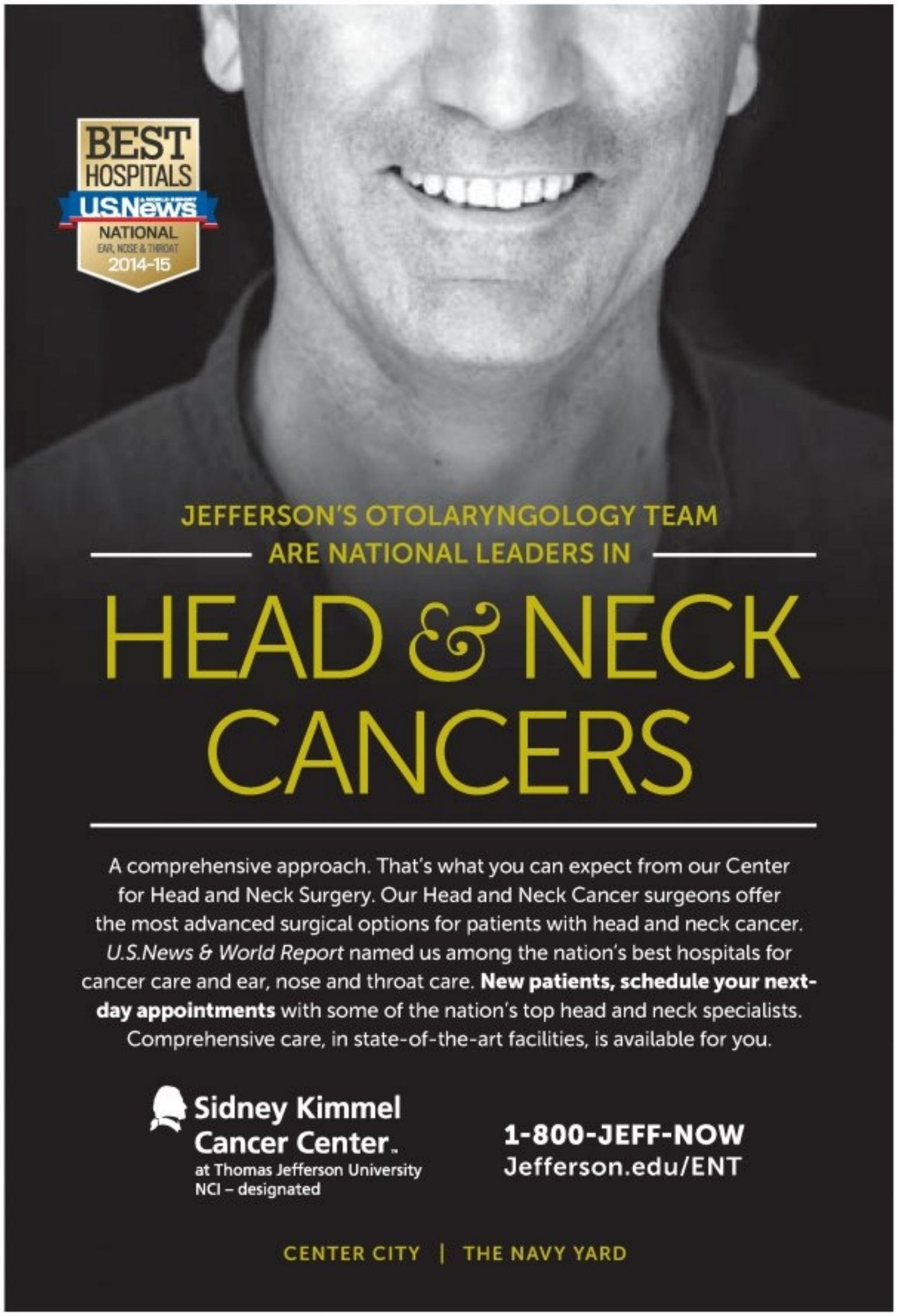
A coalition of groups seeking release of the transcripts told the four-judge panel that grand jury secrecy undermined confidence in the justice system and hampered debate among state lawmakers weighing grand jury reforms.

The groups, which included the Legal Aid Society, want the appeals court to overturn a Staten Island justice's decision in March to bar release of records of the grand jury that probed the death of Eric Garner.

"The secrecy only reinforces suspicion, and there is deep suspicion here in the communities of color and among others," New York Civil Liberties Union attorney Art Eisenberg told the justices of the Supreme Court Appellate Division Second Department.

Other parties requesting the release of minutes include the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and New York City's public advocate office.

Garner died when NYPD officer Daniel Pantaleo held him in a choke hold during his arrest in July on suspicion he was selling loose cigarettes. REUTERS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Five things you need to know

1 Six Irish visitors killed in Calif. balcony collapse

An apartment balcony collapsed early on Tuesday near the University of California at Berkeley, killing six people, all believed to be visiting college students from Ireland, and injuring several others.

The victims, most if not all of whom were working in the San Francisco Bay area on temporary visas for summer vacation, had been celebrating a friend's 21st birthday when the tragedy occurred, according to Irish government officials in Dublin.

Pictures from the scene showed that the fourth-floor balcony gave way and pancaked onto the third-story balcony just beneath it at the Library Gardens apartment complex, about two blocks from the UC Berkeley campus across the bay from San Francisco.

Berkeley Police spokeswoman Jennifer Coats initially reported that at least five people were killed. The coroner bureau of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office later said six fatalities had been confirmed.

Coats said as many as eight people were badly hurt in the collapse. Injuries sustained by the surviving victims, she said, were "very serious and potentially life-threatening." REUTERS

Library Gardens apartment complex / GOOGLE MAPS

2 Twenty-First Century Fox names James Murdoch CEO

Twenty-First Century Fox Inc. said Rupert Murdoch will hand over the chief executive reins at the entertainment conglomerate to his 42-year-old son James.

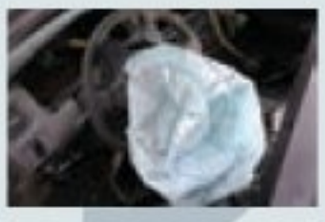
Rupert Murdoch, 84, will become executive co-chairman along side his elder son Lachlan.

James is currently the co-chief operating officer of the company.

The company said the new changes are effective July 1. REUTERS

JAMES MURDOCH GETTY IMAGES

3 Toyota expands Takata U.S. air bag recalls by 1.37M vehicles



Toyota Motor will recall almost 1.37 million more vehicles in the U.S. due to potentially deadly front passenger-side air bags made by Japan's Takata Corp., Toyota said on Tuesday.

The expansion pushes the total number of Toyota vehicles recalled in the U.S. because of dangers posed by Takata air bags to more than 2.9 million.

Some Takata air bags have opened with too much force, sending shrapnel into vehicles. REUTERS

4 Alaska wildfires destroy dozens of homes, menace highway

Two fast-spreading Alaska wildfires have forced a series of evacuations, destroyed up to 45 homes and forced authorities to restrict traffic on a major highway connecting two of the state's largest cities, state officials said.

As many as 200 firefighters have been battling a 6,500-acre fire about 40 miles north of Anchorage since Sunday afternoon.

About 137 miles south of Anchorage, crews are fighting a much smaller but equally dangerous blaze that threatens nearly 200 homes. REUTERS

5 Amazon considering paying people to deliver packages: WSJ

Amazon is developing a mobile application that would pay ordinary people, rather than courier companies, to deliver packages en route to other destinations, the Wall Street Journal reported on Tuesday.

Amazon would enlist brick-and-mortar retailers in urban areas to store the packages, likely renting space from them or paying a per-package fee, the Journal reported, citing people familiar with the matter. REUTERS

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Rachel Dolezal says she is black, felt that way since she was 5

TV interview.
The day after she resigns NAACP post, Rachel Dolezal breaks silence on race scandal.

Rachel Dolezal / TWITTER

From early on in life, Rachel Dolezal said on Tuesday, she has been drawn to African-American culture and identified as black.

Even at the age of 5, Dolezal told NBC's Today, she felt different.

"I was drawing self-portraits with the brown crayon instead of the peach crayon," she told Lauer. "It was a little more complex than me identifying as black."

Dolezal, who has lived as a black woman but was outed by her parents as white, broke her silence in a 10-minute sit-down with Matt Lauer.

She admitted that she knew one day her past would catch up with her. Still, she has few regrets.

She cited her life work as further evidence that her self-identification as black (not African-American, she notes) is real.

Besides her NAACP work, she went to historically black Howard University and has taught in the Africana studies department of a local college.

In an interesting choice of words, she said: "I don't see why they're in such a rush to whitewash the work that I have done and who I am and how I have identified."

"My life has been one of survival," Dolezal went on.

"The decisions I've made along the way, including my identification, have been to survive."

She insisted that she will continue to fight for social justice.

Quoted

"I've had to answer a lot of questions throughout my life."
Dolezal

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Inside the investing divide between millennials and baby boomers

Stock market. When it comes to investing, whose instincts are right on the money? We take a look.

For those aged 34 or younger, their No. 2 favorite stock — behind only Apple Inc. — is none other than Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc. This is according to new data from the brokerage TD Ameritrade, which took a snapshot in May of the individual equity holdings of every one of its retail clients.

When it came to picking individual stocks, the results showed a generational difference. Millennials, who are pegged as tech-obsessed upstarts, favored the stocks of their own time. Aging baby boomers, who are stereotyped as stubbornly set in their ways, and Generation X, which is stuck in the middle, mostly favored what they know best — that is, dividend stocks.

Among the top picks for adults aged 34 and younger: Apple, which accounts for a whopping 11.7 percent of their equity holdings; Facebook Inc., at 1.9 percent; electric carmaker Tesla Motors Inc., at 1.1 percent; and Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group Holding Ltd., at 1.1 percent.

For all those aged 35 years and older, Apple reigns supreme in their portfolios as well, with a share of 9.4 percent. Other popular stocks include General Electric Co., at 1.7 percent; AT&T Inc., at 1.4 percent; and Exxon-Mobil Corp., at 1.4 percent. No mystery there: Follow the dividend.

Millennials favor investing in "of the moment" startups. / ISTOCK

But the underlying question: Do America's respective generations have their equity mixes right? Or is some rebalancing in order? To find out, Reuters took the trove of TD Ameritrade data to Patrick O'Shaughnessy, a portfolio manager with Stamford, Connecticut-based O'Shaughnessy Asset Management and author of the book "Millennial Money: How Young Investors Can Build a Fortune."

His No. 1 concern for both generations: Back off on the Apple, guys. "Those Apple percentages are crazy high," O'Shaughnessy says. "In comparison Apple is around 4 percent of the S&P 500, so that is a huge individual position for both age groups."

O'Shaughnessy also warns millennials against loading up on the latest sizzling tech stock, such as Alibaba, and advises them to look hard at underlying valuations. In many cases price-earnings ratios have shot sky-high, and just do not represent smart buys.

If millennials remain determined to invest in the sector, they should instead look at stodgier tech names such as Microsoft Corp, he says. With proven revenue streams, stock buyback programs and growing dividends, tech's old guard should prove safer harbor if market storms hit.

O'Shaughnessy's final tip for investors: Look abroad. Since the U.S. market has "killed every other market for five years," that likely means many investors are now overweight in American stocks. As a result, bulking up your portfolio with more international names would be wise. REUTERS

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1 You're not going to see Zoe Saldana's kids

ZOESALDANA, INSTAGRAM / ALL OTHER PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

New mom Zoe Saldana is going to great lengths to respect the privacy of her 6-month-old twin sons. That means you won't be seeing any photos with their faces anytime soon, so bad news for you, Obsessive Celebrity-Kid Watchers. (Wow, that sounds creepy.) "I just don't want 16 years from now to get, 'You are so disrespectful. You invaded, you exposed me and I wasn't ready.' Even though they're babies and they're under our care, it's still their face," Saldana tells E! News. "Right now they're not in the position to speak for themselves or make a decision. I don't want to make it for them." She will, however, post Instagram photos of the backs of their heads, apparently. So at least that's something?

THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

NED EHRBAR
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ned.ehrbar@metro.us

2 St. Vincent tames Cara Delevingne's wild ways

Model Cara Delevingne has famously dated Harry Styles and Michelle Rodriguez, but it's none other than St. Vincent singer Annie Clark who has turned the "Paper Towns" actress from party girl to domestic partner. A source close to the couple allegedly tells Closer magazine that the couple are "so in love" with each other and are living together in easy domestic bliss. "They both say they feel like they've found 'The One,'" the source says. "When Annie asked Cara to move in together, she said yes immediately. They feel really settled at the moment."

Even their busy schedules can't keep them apart. The source goes on to say that neither one of them hesitates to jump on a plane, even if it's just for a few hours of time together. Team #StCara for the win! EMILY LAURENCE

3 Aaron Paul punks sad 'Breaking Bad' fans

@AARONPAUL_8, TWITTER

"Breaking Bad" star Aaron Paul apparently wants to use his fame and social media moxie for evil, not good. He recently teased fans in a Periscope video about a "Breaking Bad" spinoff chronicling the exploits of his character, Jesse Pinkman, following his exit from Albuquerque. "I'm going to tell you all some news that I've been dying to tell you for some time," he offered. "Listen, there's some super top-secret news that I am so proud to tell all of you. It's very exciting." Except that it was all a lie. And fans got so worked up after it that he had to tweet an apology: "Sorry for the joke, everybody." Not cool.

2 CULTURE

Twitter feed

Today, Iggy Azalea is optimistic, Vanessa Williams is really moving, Justin Bieber is making threats, Kevin Hart is suffering for his art and Billy Eichner knows what he sees.

@IGGYAZALEA: I have a really good feeling about everything to come after today. Im in a great space.

@VWOfficial: Bullet train to Osaka. This is fast!

@justinbieber: Time to make this music

@KevinHart4real: Night shoots in the cold & rain with my brotha @TheRock ....This is movie making at its best people!!! P.S I can't feel my feet lmfao

@billyeichner: i changed my mind again - Rachel Dolezal is white and gold

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More than a

Music. The Pixies are ready to break out new tunes.

See the Pixies tonight at The Mann, along with Robert Plant and the Sensational Head to www.manncenter.org for details. JAY BLAKESBERG

Headlining a music festival in their hometown, as they did recently at Boston Calling, might seem like a vindication for the Pixies, the seminal rock band taking the stage tonight at The Mann in Fairmount Park. Though they were influential for a range of bands, they broke up before achieving the domestic success that might have been equivalent to their legacy. But big-voiced lead singer Black Francis says he and original members Joey Santiago and Dave Lovering don't think of it that way.

"It's not that we don't understand the hometown thing or whatever, but from our point of view, and it's always been this way from the beginning, when we take the stage, we're not really anywhere. We're in this other space. And hopefully the audience is in that space too," he says. "It's a pure space. It's devoid of geography, and it's devoid of what day of the week it is, and it's devoid of what time of day the gig's at. It's our show, and that's really where we're at."

That old Pixies feeling

For a band that perfected the loud/quiet/loud style of rock music (and whose reunion tour inspired a fine documentary with that name), Black Francis says that all these years later, they're trying to keep it simple. "We don't have any dance moves, we've very little shtick. We're sort of known for not saying anything to our audience. We're shy."

Shy they may be, but they're taking this reunion seriously. A new album, "Indie Cindy," was released in 2014, and Black Francis seems confident it will feel familiar to fans. Asked what distinguishes an old Pixies song from a new one, he says, "Nothing, as far as we're concerned. I mean, it's our music, under our flag."

New Faces

There is one pretty big

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Res life

The band first formed in the '80s, when Santiago and Black Francis (known by the simpler moniker Charles Thompson back then) met because they lived in the same dorm at the University of Massachusetts. As to the all-important question of where they lived, Black Francis has a ready answer. "We were in a building called Brown, which is in the Sylvan complex," he explains. "A few years ago, I ended up moving back to that area. I live down the street from UMass. It's kind of funny." One might even say it's educational.

change for the band, however. Bassist Kim Deal departed last year, marking the first permanent change to the lineup. Are the Pixies still the Pixies without Deal? It's a tough question, and one Black Francis says the remaining members discussed.

"We had numerous conversations, but at the end of the day, we decided that we like the music, and we like the work and we have a kind of — I wouldn't say we're workaholics — but when we have a job, we like to do the job," he explains. "At the end of the day, it's rock music. And so after our initial discussions about what the future held, we decided it's just about music. It's what we do; it's what we know how to do. We're not going to fight that reality."

Stepping in for Deal is new bassist Paz Lenchantin, who also takes over some of the backup vocals Deal did.

"She has been truly a blessing to this band. We couldn't be happier," Black Francis says. "She totally fits in. Her creative contributions are really grounded. They come from a place of experience. She gets us."

They never questioned adding a female vocalist back into the mix. "That's part of our sound, that we have a female voice mixed in there with my own," he explains.

Quoted

"We're sort of known for not saying anything to our audience. We're shy."

Black Francis

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Exploring the domestic side of the space race

"The Astronaut Wives Club" premieres Thursday at 8 p.m. on ABC.
COOK ALLENDER, ABC

Interview. JoAnna Garcia Swisher says life as an astronaut's wife was pretty complicated.

Movies like "Apollo 13" have given modern audiences a taste of what it was like to experience the space race in the '60s. Daring astronauts, a race against the Soviets — it all makes for great drama. But there's another side to that time period: the women the astronauts left behind when they traveled. These wives represented a very public face of happy marriage. Behind the scenes, the story was a little different, and that's the story "The Astronaut Wives Club" seeks to tell. JoAnna Garcia Swisher stars as Betty Grissom and says she found some parallels to her own life.

How does Betty react to her husband's missions?
It's obviously terrifying, but it's important to remember these women were military wives. Betty had to see her husband off to war before and that certainly had its own set of stressors and fears attached to it. They were very strong and very capable of handling the unknown and being prepared for the worst. In these particular circumstances, there were so

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many pressures that were put on them. When their husbands were sent off to war, they didn't have to keep a certain

GETTY IMAGES

household in a certain way.

The show has lots of period details, like the food the wives served.
Oh god. I don't even know how people survived back then. They're all very authentic recipes.

There are definitely some creative meals.
Some meatloaf cupcakes — they were amazing.

What is that?
It's actually phenomenal. It's a muffin tin filled with meatloaf baked with a mashed potato icing topping and it is spectacular.

LISA WEIDENFELD
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Real-life parallels

As someone who's been acting for a long time, did you identify with Betty's experience with the press?
Honestly, I related a lot to it as a baseball wife. It's a huge part of my life. I'm married to a baseball player [Nick Swisher]. I never knew that particular experience would ever directly apply to my career. But I do know what it's like to move to a new city because of your husband's job and rely on brand-new friends and brand-new women from all different places in the country and in the world with all different beliefs and ideology. Everyone has a different frame of reference, but you all come together to support each other because that's what you do. I really appreciate my friendships through that. Through the good and the bad and the highs and lows of your husband's career, you flock to each other and support each other. It's really hard to understand what it feels like if you're not in it.

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"The Art of John Lennon" is on display at Ocean Galleries in Stone Harbor, N.J. (www.oceangalleries.com). Entry is free, but a donation to the Community FoodBank of New Jersey is suggested. / COPYRIGHT YOKO ONO

The ballad of John and Yoko's art

Doodles. Down the shore this weekend? See drawings by the Beatle.

A typical couple honeymooning in Paris would get their picture taken in front of the Eiffel Tower.

John Lennon and Yoko Ono were not a typical couple. Lennon sketched a picture of himself and Ono in front of the tower and showed it to friends and fans. "So that was our way of letting them join in on the wedding," Lennon said to the BBC in 1980.

Now, fans of Lennon and Ono can see glimpses of their cheery domesticity, playful whimsy and the joy of love in "The Art of John Lennon," on display down the shore this weekend, Thursday to Monday at the Ocean Galleries in Stone Harbor, New Jersey.

Collection curator Michele Rosen will be at the gallery to discuss the works Friday through Sunday. "That's my favorite," Rosen says of the Eiffel Tower picture. "There's so much love there. There's so much love Yoko and John had."

There are 72 pieces in the exhibit and the limited-edition serigraphs and lithographs posthumously colored and signed by Ono are for sale, beginning at $700.

Lennon studied visual arts at the Liverpool Art Institute from 1957 to 1960, and he later penned and illustrated three of his own books, "In His Own Write," "A Spaniard in the Works" and "Skywriting by Word of Mouth."

"Art was his first love," Rosen explains. "He began drawing before he picked up a guitar."

On the topic of guitars, Paul McCartney is playing Sunday at the Wells Fargo Center, so it's a big weekend for the Beatles in the region.

CHRIS JORDAN
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

On display

Small towns

It's under Ono's direction that the works are exhibited in out-of-the-way spots like Stone Harbor. The exhibit is free but attendees are encouraged to give a donation, which will go to the Community FoodBank of New Jersey.

"They'll be going to places that are not just in the major cities, where people can see and appreciate John's work," Rosen says. "See the art, donate, take a piece home. One of the pieces is a very simple drawing of him and Yoko, celebrating John and Yoko's love for each other. Each time I see it I get choked up."

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Ikea hacks

Get creative with furniture staples from the popular Swedish furniture brand.

MARIANNE HAYES
@ MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Ikea just celebrated its 30th anniversary in the U.S. What better way to honor everybody's favorite ready-to-assemble furniture company than with a roundup of supercreative hacks?

We've scoured the Internet for the best DIY projects that turn generic pieces into furniture that wows.

Quirky "suitcase" dresser

By swapping out boring old knobs for unique drawer pulls, it creates the illusion of stacked, vintage-style luggage. "I love to travel, so I painted an Ikea Rast dresser to look like suitcases stacked together," says blogger Jen Crider of Girl in the Garage. "Just looking at it reminds me of all the wonderful places I've been."

It's the leather scraps and old suitcase accessories that really give the finished piece some character.

How to pull it off:

1. Assemble the dresser and remove the drawers. Then stain everything but the drawers.
2. Paint the drawers any color you choose. (Applying wax afterwards is optional.)
3. Swap in cool luggage-style drawer pulls and glue on accessories like leather strips and gold accents.

Farmhouse-chic coffee table

If you've been on Pinterest lately, you know that the farmhouse theme is trending. But you don't have to spend a fortune to incorporate it. Blogger Natalie Dalpias of The Creative Mom cracked the code with this DIY coffee table upgrade. "I love using rustic, charming furniture," she says. "So when I needed a coffee table in my living room, I wanted it to be farmhouse-style. Instead of building it all myself, I used the Hemnes coffee table from Ikea and gave it a facelift."

The best part? It only cost $10 in lumber and a few hours of work to create it.

How to pull it off:

1. Pick up enough 1x4 wooden boards to cover the length of the table. (You may have to cut them, so measure the table beforehand.)
2. Stain the boards, and then apply wax for protection.
3. Glue the boards onto the tabletop using an adhesive like Liquid Nails. Clamp the sides down while you fasten some screws on the table's underside. Tip: Flip the table upside down and set something heavy on the underside to help the glue set.

High-end gold and marble shelves

Looking to add some glam in your life? This hack transforms an ordinary glass shelf into a luxe unit for showcasing everything from books to accent pieces.

"We love this project for the simple ease of execution and the time factor," says Erin Lepperd of Style Me Pretty. "If you can spray paint and use scissors, you'll be a pro."

This faux high-end project is totally budget-friendly. The transformation relies on gold spray paint and marble contact paper — that's it. Lepperd adds that the whole shebang shouldn't cost more than $100.

How to pull it off:

1. Assemble the unit, then lay it outside on a drop cloth before applying three light coats of gold spray paint to the frame. Then let it dry for about half an hour.
2. Apply a mix of beige and natural marble contact paper to the shelves, then assemble the rest of the shelf per the instructions.

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Homes on Rittenhouse Square are like 'beachfront property'

Rittenhouse Square is a popular hangout year-round, but especially when the weather warms up. M. EDLOW FOR VISITPHILADELPHIA

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When it comes to home value and quality of life, a neighborhood park can make all the difference.

JULIA WEST
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Parks provide outdoor space for community members to exercise, engage and just relax under some coveted shade on a blistering summer day. It's no surprise that having a green space nearby has not only a mental benefit but a monetary one as well. We spoke with several real estate agents about the green gold that's a neighborhood park.

"I believe Rittenhouse Square and Washington Square to be considered beachfront property," says Al Perry, a broker at Century 21 Advantage Gold. "People love great views of the skyline, but nothing is better than looking out and seeing the Square where people are sitting and eating, talking and interacting."

It might be all that interacting that makes a local park so desirable. "When you look at green space, it adds such a quality of life to the urban environment," Perry says. "It brings together people of diverse cultures and backgrounds."

Timothy Garrity, cofounder and COO of Copper Hill Real Estate, agrees: "Green space is always going to offer three things: better quality of life, healthy living through recreation and a stronger, safer neighborhood with civic centers and people who care about the park." Garrity points to his local spot, Gorgas Park on Ridge Avenue in Roxborough. What was once an unkempt plot has been revitalized into something people love. "[Civic association] Friends of Gorgas Park got people together and cleaned it up. Now you can't drive by without seeing 30 people in the park," says Garrity.

It's easy to see how green space improves a neighborhood — it's another thing to be able to quantify what that's worth when buying and selling. "I don't know if I can put a dollar amount on the impact of green space, but it certainly helps homes sell faster, which in turn helps maintain a property's desirability, salability and value," says Noah Ostroff, realtor at Keller Williams. And the hope is that the people moving into these homes will become invested in their parks and help keep them up.

Public space makeover

Love Park at 16th and JFK is one of Philly's most iconic public spaces, thanks to its Robert Indiana sculpture. Now it's getting a $15 million makeover, currently in its early stages. In March a public meeting gauged which of four redesign options people preferred. The Parks and Recreation site shows that top priorities for the new look include more green space, additional seating and a food truck area.

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Horoscope

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20
You may be busy, but making time for a friend in need should take precedence. Your dependability will be appreciated.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22
Look into your family tree. The things you learn about your lineage will help explain some of the current issues facing you and will give you insight.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22
You will fall behind if you underestimate your competition. Dig below the surface to find out the details that will lead you to victory.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Don't be open about your dreams. You have a lot riding on being the best, so don't give them the chance to steal your thunder.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22
Don't share personal information. Someone will use it to smear your reputation. Step up and take control of whatever situation you face.

♏ Scorpio |Oct. 23-Nov. 21
Reflecting on your past will give you an outline for what you need to do in the future. You will come out on top once you have your game plan in place.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21 There is money to be made if you are savvy. Don't fork over any of your own cash on a risky investment. Be prudent.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You will be oversensitive today. Don't take everything to heart. Make personal changes that will amp up your confidence.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Love is in a high cycle. Embrace any opportunity to increase your knowledge and broaden your job prospects. Lady Luck is smiling on you.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20
Use your versatility to the max. Brainstorming with other successful individuals will give you insight into marketing trends.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20
Your old friends may be jealous of a new acquaintance. Make sure to spend time with people who have always been in your corner.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21
Your problems and concerns will mount if you don't listen to what others are saying and observe what they are doing.

EUGENIA LAST

Sudoku: Easy and hard

4			7	2				
7		8		6			3	2
8		7		3	5	6		
1	6			4			8	7
		3	6	7		4		5
2	8			5		7		1
				1	9			6

4				5		6		
7	3				4			2
					2			
9	6		7	4				
3	4	2				7	9	6
				6	9		3	4
			5					
5			4				8	7
		6		8				5

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters to the editor

Many would benefit from salt labels

Re: 'With a grain of salt' (Metro, June 16) A new salt labeling proposal is highly necessary. More than one-third of U.S. adults are obese or overweight. We need to focus more on our health rather than what's going to make our foods taste good. Humans were not created to consume the processed junk that is on the market today. Processed foods are loaded with sodium. Having salt labels would make people more aware of their nutrient consumption, which may result in better food choices. You also make it seem as if salt is the only seasoning that can make food taste good. There are so many healthy seasonings on the market that can make home-cooked meals taste great (pepper, oregano, garlic, etc.). If it's going to make me more aware, then I am for it. TABATHA LOPEZ

Eva Kis starts out with a shaky argument against restaurant salt labeling when she compares it to proposals to ban large sodas. Obviously, providing information about food is a lot different than banning it. Seventy million Americans have high blood pressure, and for those people eating salt-laden restaurant meals risks their health. What's wrong with providing the information that allows them to protect their health, while allowing everyone else to continue to eat what they want?
WALTER BRANSON, VIA EMAIL

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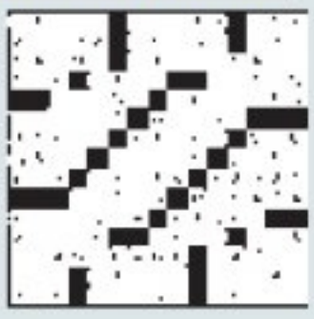
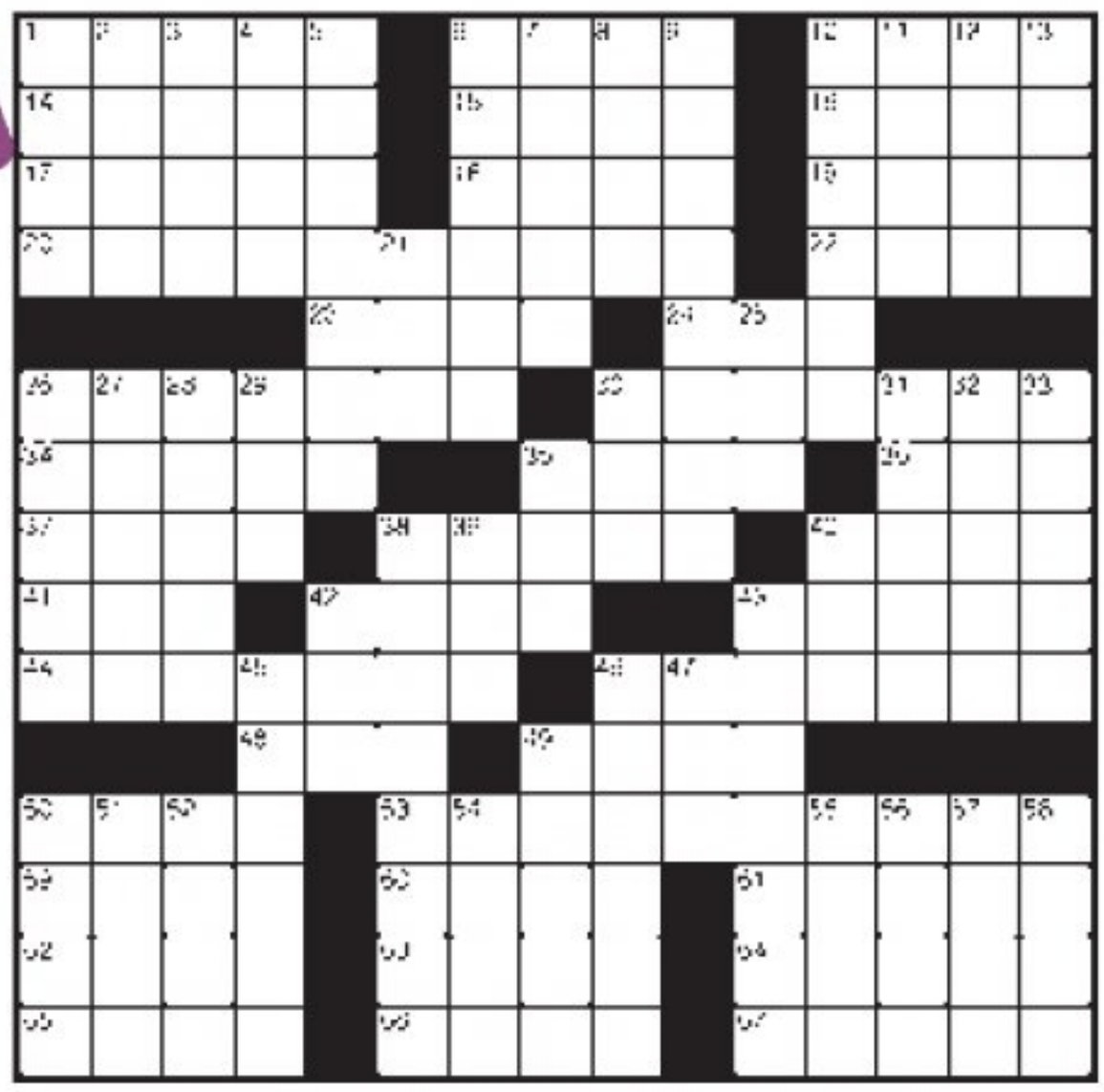
Crossword

Across
1 Beatle drummer
6 Planet orbiter
10 Mongkut's domain
14 Hawaiian porch
15 Exchange fee
16 Unattractive
17 — for the ride
18 Family mems.
19 Purple vegetable
20 Vigilance (2 wds.)
22 Cats do it
23 Evens the score
24 Bump hard
26 Leisure time
30 Talkative
34 Greek epic
35 Duck's feet
36 Groundhog mo.
37 Dele's undoing
38 Rosters
40 St. —'s fire
41 Luau dish
42 Feeding time cry
43 Rocket pioneer Wernher von —
44 Winter creature
46 Rural area
48 Cached
49 Make a salary
50 Popular hemline
53 Reconsider (2 wds.)
59 Mr. Hubbard (2 wds.)
60 "Othello" heavy
61 Inches forward
62 Croquet site
63 Demeanor
64 Little brooks
65 Counting-rhyme start
66 Blows it
67 Metamorphic rock

Down
1 Burger side
2 Chaucer offering
3 Dwarf buffalo
4 Carry on
5 Corrected
6 Dented
7 Curved moldings
8 Unctuous
9 Cosmetic procedures (2 wds.)
10 Auto import
11 Disney CEO Bob —
12 Obi-Wan player
13 Bullfinch topic
21 One, in Munich
25 Hirt and Gore
26 Thin clouds
27 John of "Crocodile Rock"
28 "Old MacDonald" refrain
29 Krazy feline
30 Validate
31 Musical key (2 wds.)
32 Large-eyed monkey
33 Deep black
35 ENE opposite
38 It comes before a deadline (2 wds.)
39 Charged particle
40 Sea eagle
42 2001, to Ovid
43 Some hitters
45 Neigh
46 Bishop's laws
47 Sitcom planet
49 Alpine peak
50 Marseilles Ms.
51 Latin hymn word
52 Elevator button
54 Wig
55 Mournful cry
56 "La — Bonita"
57 Druid
58 To be, to Ovid

Yesterday's answer





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Eagles confident in offensive line

NFL. The Eagles feel as though they are strong up front, even without Pro Bowl guard Evan Mathis.

Chip Kelly's decision to cut Pro Bowl guard Evan Mathis last week raised two important issues for the Eagles as they started Day 1 of mandatory minicamp Tuesday.

Who will replace Mathis? And was the casualty a signal to players that if they want out of their contract, they can simply hold out?

"Evan was a good football player," tight end Zach Ertz said. "I'm not going to deny that, but at the same time we are really confident in the guys we have. At the end of the day we are going to be a better team."

From a roster standpoint, the team will have no trouble finding veteran experience to step in at both guard positions in place of Mathis and another cut lineman, Todd Herremans.

"The good thing is, I have played next to all these guys already during my career," center Jason Kelce said. "I have played next to [Allen Barbre] for two years in drills, practice and on the field, with Matt Tobin, Andrew Gardner, Kevin Graf, Julian Vandervelde. There still needs to be more cohesion made but ... I don't think it's as drastic a change if it were a guy coming in I had never played with."

In stark contrast to Kelce, who sees the Birds offensive front as being a deep group, head coach Chip Kelly admits that "depth is an issue for anyone in this league."

But he does have a lot of confidence in Barbre, who has stepped in all spring in place of Mathis.

Quoted

"Obviously when you lose a player of that caliber it hurts, but I have said all along we have a great group of guys." Sam Bradford

"I think Allen Barbre is an outstaying football player," Kelly said. "Anytime he has had to play for us he played extremely well. We are excited about moving forward with him."

So the impact of Mathis' release may not be as bad for the offensive line as it appeared to at first glance. But what about the impact on the team as a whole?

"One thing that's been preached since day one is this is a culture, this is a team thing," Kelce said. "Evan had [contract issues] last year too but he showed up still."

The players don't see it as precedent that they can get what they want by putting a gun to the Eagles' head. In fact, it's the complete opposite. In a culture of hard workers and winners, the players want to earn their keep.

"A guy like Connor Barwin, who does everything right, got extended after last year," Ertz said. "They guaranteed an extra year in his contract. DeMeco Ryans has done everything for this program each and every day and he was rewarded with more guaranteed money."

A starting guard spot appears to be Allen Barbre's to lose. / GETTY IMAGES

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3 SPORTS

Back home

Phillies host Orioles

After yet another road trip from hell (the Phillies are the worst away team in baseball), the Phils return to the friendly confines of Citizens Bank Park, where they are 15-16, to host Baltimore for two more games. Kevin Correia and Sean O'Sullivan will start in the short two-game series.

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Bradford on track

Bradford says he feels better every day

The Eagles hope to have a franchise quarterback in Sam Bradford. That goal rests solely on the health of the 27-year-old's knees.

Practice has been restricted for Bradford, who is getting limited opportunities in seven-on-seven drills as he sports a knee brace at the Eagles' practice facility in South Philly. But it's preparation to get the former No. 1 pick ready for training camp, where he hopes to participate in 11-on-11 drills. Bradford has been sharp and has not had a setback so far.

When asked during the first day of minicamp whether Bradford will be ready for training camp, Chip Kelly responded, "God, I hope so." Kelly went on to say they are sticking to the same schedule for Bradford they have followed so far.

JEFF SMYTH

Sam Bradford and Mark Sanchez have each taken first teams rep at quarterback this spring in Eagles camp. / GETTY IMAGES

Sanchez maximizes reps as Bradford heals

NFL. Mark Sanchez continues to look better and better with the Eagles' first team.

You can knock him for his past performances. For his ball security issues, average arm strength and decision making. But what you can't knock is Mark Sanchez 2015, a guy whose arm strength and confidence level has impressed many in camp thus far.

"I know I can play, I know I can play in this system," Sanchez said of coming into what seems like another quarterback competition, at least according to Chip Kelly. "If it's a competition, the best player is going to play, that's how I have to be."

Sanchez made it clear since being re-signed this offseason, to what seems to be a lucrative backup quarterback contract, that he can compete for the starting role.

The second-year Eagle has been taking the majority of snaps as the first-team quarterback during OTAs and minicamp. It's a leg up Sanchez can continue to take advantage of over the next few days with Bradford limited because of his health.

In all likelihood, a healthy Bradford should be the starter week one in Atlanta. Sanchez, however, could be in contention for the starting gig either way. He sure looks like a starter.

"I'm anticipating guys more," Sanchez said. "Understanding guys' breaks and body language. I feel like I have that nailed down, which helps me think of next-level things when reading a defense. You get your contingency planning down and that helps my mentality."

It is a mentality that requires a lot of hard work instead of talent, in which Sanchez seems to be imposing upon for himself in Kelly's system, a system that seems beneficial to his self-esteem.

"There's no substitution for repetition, practice, film studying and all of that stuff," Sanchez said, referring to the typical workload. "They are pushing us hard, guys are tired, but we work on the recovery and that has to do with why I am feeling better."

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MLB Power Rankings | by Ryan Hannable

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Cardinals (42-21)

St. Louis' success has been surprising, as the team has had overcome injuries to Adam Wainwright, Lance Lynn, Matt Holliday and Matt Adams who have all gone down this year.

No. 2

Dodgers (37-27)

The Dodgers' plus-57 run-differential is the second best in the NL as they have opened a 3.5-game lead in the NL West. Zack Greinke has a 1.95 ERA since April.

No. 3

Astros (37-28)

Houston has dropped seven of 10. With the AL West being as poor as it is, the Astros still hold a 2.5-game division lead.

No. 4

Pirates (36-27)

Along with Gerrit Cole's dominance from the mound, Starling Marte's 45 RBIs are fifth in the NL. They've won seven of 10.

No. 5

Rays (36-29)

The Rays have won four straight and are now in first place in the AL East. Chris Archer has led the way with seven wins and a sparkling 2.00 ERA.

No. 6

Royals (35-25)

The Royals have played .500 ball of late, but with the Twins struggling, Kansas City has taken over the top spot in the Al Central.

No. 7

Mets (35-30)

New York is back on top of the NL East standings, winning two straight and owning a 25-11 home record.

No. 8

Cubs (34-27)

Like the Pirates, the Cubs can't gain ground on St. Louis. Jon Lester has been under scrutiny for not yet performing like the ace he was expected to be.

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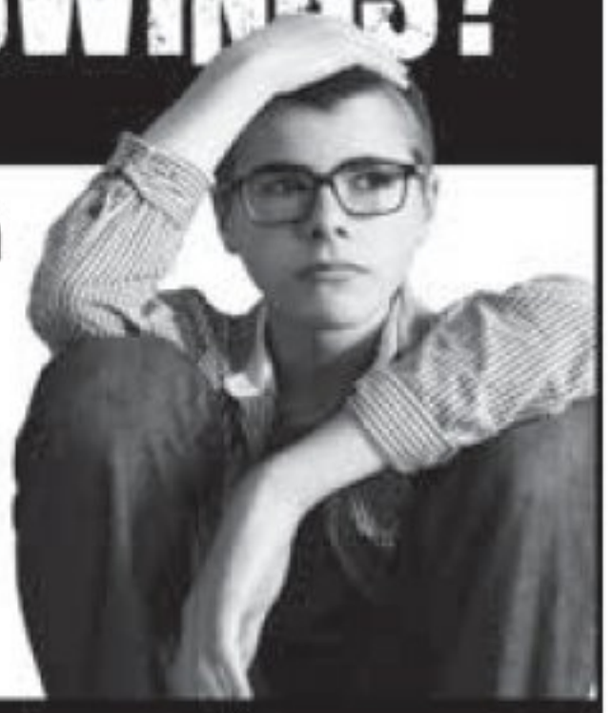

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